Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: OEXC, PK

SUBJECT: INQUIRY FROM HARVARD CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL

AFFAIRS

1. AFTER LAPSE SEVERAL YEARS, HARVARD CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IS SEEKING INCLUDE PAKISTANI DIPLOMAT AMONG THOSE HOLDING ONE-YEAR FELLOWSHIP. CENTER HAS NARROWED THOSE THEY CONSIDERING TO FOUR PERSONS. THEY ARE: (A) SYED MURAD AHMED KHAIRI, MINISTER AT PAKISTAN EMBASSY, MOSCOW;(B) NASEEM MIRZA, MINISTER AT PEKING; (C) AKRAM ZAKI, MFA, ISLAMABAD; AND (D) IQBAL RIZA, MINISTER AT WASHINGTON. RIZA HOLDS CONSIDERABLE LEAD OVER OTHER THREE IN EYES OF CENTER. (CENTER HAS ASKED WE NOT REPEAT NOT CONVEY TO RIZA OR TO GOP AT THIS TIME PREFERENCE FOR RIZA.)

2. CENTER PRESENTLY CONCLUDES IT CONFRONTS SERIOUS PROBLEM INCLUDING PAKISTANI IN LIGHT PAST EXPERIENCE. WHEN PAKISTANIS PARTICIPATED IN CENTER PROGRAM DURING PERIOD 1959-69 (CENTER LOST INTEREST WHEN QUALITY DECLINED BUT WILLING TO TRY AGAIN IF IT CERTAIN QUALITY OF CANDIDATES WILL STAY HIGH), THEIR COSTS MET FROM GRANT WHICH NO LONGER AVAILABLE. IN PRESENT SITUATION, CENTER HAS ALREADY APPROACHED FORD FOUNDATION REP IN ISLAMABAD FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUPPORT BUT IS CONCERNED THAT LATTER MAY BE UNABLE PROVIDE

SUPPORT, OR ALL OF IT, AND THUS HAS ALSO SOUGHT DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE.

- 3. IN ATTEMPTING TO PROVIDE ANSWER TO CENTER REGARDING POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE FROM USG, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT, AT BEST, THERE ONLY TWO POSSIBLE SOURCES. FIRST IS USEF/PAKISTAN AND OTHER IS IV GRANT. FIRST HAS DRAWBACK THAT THERE NO WAY INSURE THAT RECIPIENT WILL BE PERSON CENTER WISHES HAVE AS FELLOW WHILE USE OF SECOND RUNS RISK OF SERIOUSLY SKEWING IV PROGRAM.
- 4. WHILE WE CONTINUE SEARCH FOR WAY AID CENTER INCLUDE PAKISTANI (AND ESPECIALLY RIZA) AMONG ITS ONE-YEAR FELLOWS, WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR THOUGHTS ON USE OF USEF/P OR IV PROGRAM. WE SUSPECT THAT CENTER WILL FIND A WAY TO FINANCE PART OF CANDIDATE'S EXPENSES (IN RIZA CASE, THEY ARE ESTIMATED AT DOLS 18,500 FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR SINCE NO TRAVEL OF ANY DISTANCE NEED BE PERFORMED BY PRINCIPAL AND DEPENDENTS). NEVERTHELESS, SINCE SUCH SUMS MAY BE INADEQUATE MEET FULL COSTS AND SINCE WE THINK INCLUSION OF PAKISTANI WILL SERVE OUR INTERESTS, WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON WAYS TO MAKE INCLUSION PAKISTANI POSSIBLE. HOPE EMBASSY WILL BE ABLE TO DISCUSS WITH FORD REP THERE AND LET US KNOW LEVEL OF FORD INTEREST KISSINGER

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